

Amendment to the Claims

Claim 1-11. (Cancelled).

Claim 12. (Currently amended; Re-presented former dependent claim 12) A fixture for use in thermally curing a bonded abrasive grinding wheel, having a substantially cylindrical peripheral surface and being fabricated from a polymeric matrix and abrasive grain, the fixture comprising a wall portion of predetermined size and shape adapted for mechanically neutral supportive engagement with a surface of the wheel; the wall portion being adapted to maintain said supportive engagement during exposure to a range of temperatures of about 60 to 300° C utilized for thermal curing of the wheel; and the wall portion being fabricated from a polymeric material being elastically deformable to facilitate the supportive engagement;

wherein the ~~The fixture as set forth in claim 1, wherein said fixture is adapted to engage an interior surface of the object-wheel.~~

13. (Currently amended) The fixture as set forth in claim 12, wherein the interior surface and ~~said~~the fixture are substantially cylindrical.

14. (Currently amended) The fixture as set forth in claim 13, wherein ~~said~~the fixture comprises a tube.

15. (Currently amended) The fixture as set forth in claim 13, wherein ~~said~~the fixture comprises a solid plug.

16. (Currently amended) A method of forming an ~~object~~abrasive grinding wheel from a polymeric matrix and abrasive grain, comprising the steps of:
molding the object wheel;

providing a support fixture sized and shaped to engage a an interior surface of the object-wheel, the support fixture being fabricated from a polymeric material that exhibits substantial resilience and resistance to thermal curing temperatures and is elastically deformable;

engaging the support fixture with the surface of the object wheel;

thermally curing the object-wheel; and

removing the object-wheel from the support fixture.

17. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 16, wherein the fixture is fabricated from a polymer being thermally resistant to temperatures within a range of approximately 60-300 degrees Celsius.

18. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 16, wherein the fixture is fabricated from a polymer selected from the group consisting of filled or unfilled silicone rubber, polytetrafluoroethylene, fluorinated ethylene propylene, polyimide, acrylates, ethylene-propylene terpolymer, butyl rubber, chlorosulfonated polyethylene, neoprene, nitrile rubbers or combinations thereof.

19. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 18, wherein the fixture is fabricated from silicone rubber.

20. (Cancelled).

21. (Cancelled).